

May 1.

MONEY IN FROG RAISING.

See Report From Frank

H. Mason, U. S. CONSUL
GENERAL at Parish,
France.

Report of April 3 1909.

May 1.

**EARLY SEASON
NEARLY OVER.****Mackerel Fleet Will Soon
Start for the Cape Shore.**

Bad weather seems to still pursue the southern seining fleet and according to all reports, but very few fish have been seen this spring. The outlook is certainly discouraging for the 49 sail now in southern waters, for very days are now left before it will be time to start for the Cape Shore.

The vessels which are coming home to refit will be here by May 15 or 16, so as to be on the Cape Shore by the 20th or 22d. The crafts who went late out south, with their Cape Shore fittings on hand can hang on out there a few days later than those which have to come home to refit.

Should the fish show well during the next two weeks and good hauls be made, quite a lot of the vessels will undoubtedly take chances and stay to the southward instead of going to the Cape Shore. It is believed, however, that the bulk of the fleet will go to the Cape Shore, hoping there to make up for the out south failure.

No mackerel seiners are reported at New York or Delaware breakwater today. At Fulton Market, however, are eight barrels of large fresh mackerel from the traps along the New Jersey shore.

A letter to the Times from Fred E. Tarr, formerly of this city, now keeper of the Great Point light at Nantucket, states the traps at that place took seven large bloater mackerel Monday night.

The catch of fresh mackerel out south by the New England fleet to date is 41 barrels. Last year, to date, it was 2053 barrels, in 1907 it was 4633 barrels; 3640 barrels in 1906; 962 barrels, in 1905 and 2027 barrels, in 1904.

The imports of salt mackerel at Boston to date are 43,812 barrels, against 24,565 barrels to date in 1907, 41,648 in 1906, 45,389 barrels in 1905, 30,522 barrels in 1904 and 48,940 barrels in 1903.

ARRIVALS LIGHT.**Only Half a Dozen at Boston
and One at This Port.**

Fishing arrivals at T wharf, Boston, today, are few and far between, there being but half a dozen of the shore boats, and no off shore crafts in with trips. The fares are small and prices high.

All the captains report very rough weather outside yesterday. Sch. Martiana is high boat with 18,000 pounds. Haddock are bringing from \$3.25 to \$3.50, large cod \$3.50 to \$4, market cod from \$2 to \$3 and hake from \$2 to \$4.

The only arrival here this morning, from the fishing grounds, is sch. Margaret, Capt. Samuel Colson, with a good fare, 30,000 pounds of halibut and 4000 pounds of salt cod.

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Harbor Notes.

The Provincetown sch. American is taking salt at this port for a dory handline trip.

Sloop Azorean and launch Jennie Mildred are on the Rocky Neck railways.

Sch. Mary E. Harty is on Burnham's railways.

Steamer Alicia will complete the discharge of her cargo of salt the first good day and will sail immediately for Cruz or Tampico.

Quite a number of off-shore vessels are awaiting clearing weather and a change of wind to sail for the fishing grounds.

Bait.

Plenty of alewives are reported at Edgartown.

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ROCKPORT ITEMS.**Halibut Weighing Nearly 300
Pounds Taken Yesterday.****Large Halibut.**

Capt. John Flanders of the fishing boat Minnie, brought in a large halibut yesterday from Shore Ground. It was bought by Albert Story and weighed 260 pounds dressed, probably 300 pounds round.

Many years ago the late Charles Norwood caught a halibut weighing 365 pounds. It was too large for him to get it into the dory and he was obliged to tow it ashore.

May 1.

Today's Receipts.

Sch. Margaret, halibuting, 30,000 lbs. halibut, 1500 lbs. salt cod.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Aspinet, haddocking.
Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, Rips.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50 per cwt. medium do., \$3; snapper do., \$1.75.

Bank halibut, 7 cts. per lb. for white and 5 cents per lb. for grey.

Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Large "halibut" cod, salt, \$3 per cwt.; medium do., \$2.50; snapper do., \$1.50.

Large "Drift" Georges cod, salt, \$3.12 1-2 per cwt.; medium do., \$2.75; snapper do., \$1.75.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$1.65 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.40; Eastern cod, large, \$1.55; medium do., \$1.30; cusk, \$1.50; for large, \$1.10 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 60c; hake, 60c.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$2.75 per cwt., medium \$2.50, snappers \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers \$1.

Round pollock, 50c per cwt.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Mildred Robinson and Gossip sailed from Canso, N. S., Wednesday for the Magdalen Islands.

Quite a lot of the market boats are harbored at Provincetown yesterday and today.

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Athena, 5000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Yankee, 6000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Matiana, 12,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Stranger, 7000 haddock, 4000 cod.

Sch. Mary T. Faxon, 4000 haddock, 5000 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Valentinna, 4000 haddock, 1500 cod.

Haddock \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt.; large cod \$3.50 to \$4; market cod \$2 to \$3; hake \$2 to \$4.

Portland Arrivals.

Sch. Tecumseh, for bait, and sailed to the eastward, and sch. Marion Turner, with 25,000 pounds of pollock, were at Portland, Thursday. Steamer Elthier with 8000 pounds of fresh fish was also there.

Sch. Mineola with 1000 pounds of fresh fish and sch. Lochinvar with 1500 pounds of fresh fish were at Portland yesterday.

Sch. Regina Floated.

The Boston fishing sch. Regina, Capt. Jere Shea, which went ashore at Cranberry Isle, off Friendship, Me., Thursday, while running into that place for bait, was floated yesterday with assistance and anchored in Georges Bay. A portion of her shoe was knocked off and drifted ashore, but otherwise she appears none the worse for her experience. After securing bait she continued on her fishing trip to Brown's bank.

May 1.

Notice to Mariners.

On or about May 15 a gas buoy, showing a fixed white light during periods of five seconds, separated by eclipses of a similar duration, to be known as Horse Shoe Shoal Southeast Port Gas Buoy, No. 8, will be permanently established alongside of Horse Shoe Shoal Southeast Part Buoy No. 2 in Nantucket Sound.

Dominion Ice Report.

As telegraphed by the superintendent of the signal service, Quebec, to the Halifax Board of Trade Thursday: Point Esquimaux—Heavy open ice inshore.

Cheticamp—Large strip of ice three miles off shore, moving west.

St. Paul's Island—Light open ice everywhere, moving west.

Cape North—Light open ice inshore.

Low Point—Heavy open ice, north.

Other points—No ice.

Steamer Bruce at North Sydney, C. B., from Port au Basques, N. F., Wednesday, reports ice mostly scattered all the way across.

Nova Scotia Vessels Ashore.

The Nova Scotia sch. Montana, Capt. Miller, while making Halifax a few days ago, with 12,000 pounds of fresh halibut on board, struck off Devil's island, but was afterwards floated, and made port.

The Mahone Bay, N. S., sch. Mamie Delle, Capt. John Westhaven, went ashore at Pleasant Point, N. S., a few days ago. She was floated and will haul out for repairs.

May 3.

**BOND PUSHED
INTO THE WATER****Opponents of Former Premier
Refused to Hear Speech.**

Sir Robert Bond, the Newfoundland ex-premier, met with a hostile reception on Friday when he attempted to land from a steamer at Western Bay, the centre of the Bay de Verde district, to address a rally.

Sir Robert is touring the towns and villages along Conception bay in the interest of his party.

When he started to go ashore from his steamer this afternoon he was met by a crowd of voters in sympathy with Sir Edward Morris' party and warned that the electors of Western Bay did not desire to hear him. The ex-premier charged that the objectors were engaged by the Morris party to prevent him from speaking and announced his intention of landing and making an address.

The crowd made a rush for the landing place and in the confusion Sir Robert was pushed overboard. He was not injured and succeeded in climbing into a row boat. He rejoined the steamer and made no further attempt to land.

The incident is attributed to the intense political feeling through the colony. Polling will be held on Saturday next. The Bondites and Morrisites have nominated straight tickets in every district. There are no independents running.

May 3.

Lunenburg, N. S., Fishing Notes.

The new sch. Hawanee, Capt. William Cook, sailed Wednesday for the banks.

Sch. Glenwood, Backman, cleared Wednesday for the banks with 16 men.

The Port Medway sch. Newsboy, Richards, cleared Wednesday for La Have, after discharging 200 quintals of dry fish at the Atlantic Fish companies.

Sch. Stanley cleared Wednesday for Ponce, Porto Rico, with a cargo of fish and lumber for Zwicker and Company limited.

Sch. Victoria Conrad, is loading a cargo of fish and lumber for the West Indies.

Sch. Colonia, Shupe, sailed Thursday morning for Magdalen Islands with a cargo of lumber and salt. She will return with a cargo of salt herring.

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MACKEREL NETTER AT NEW YORK.

Sch. Actor, Capt. Nolan, Has Honor of First Arrival.

Sixteen Seiners Put Into Delaware Breakwater for Shelter.

The first mackerel netter of the season has arrived at Fulton Market, New York. It is sch. Actor, Capt. Frank Nolan, who was also the first to arrive there last spring, thus winning the double honor of being first two years in succession. The Actor has 300 large fresh mackerel.

Capt. Nolan stated to the Times' Fulton Market representative that he caught his fare Friday night, 35 miles south southeast of Absecon being the only netter out there that set her nets that night. The weather has been too bad for the boats to take chances of setting and losing their nets. He reports lots of mackerel going to the eastward and says that as soon as there is any good fishing weather the vessels will make some catches.

On his first trip in last season Capt. Nolan landed 168 large mackerel. Sunday night was a fine one for fishing, the sky being clear and the wind moderate and all Fulton Market is looking for some more arrivals tonight or tomorrow. The fish of the Actor will bring a fine price.

A letter to the Times from Delaware breakwater dated Friday, shows that the seining fleet was still up against bad weather, 16 of the fleet being harbored there at the time.

The craft in for shelter were schs. Constellation, Clintonia, Grayling, Arabia, Diana, Ingomar, Annie Greenlaw, Harmony, Romance, Tartar, Nellie Dixon, Victor, Ralph L. Hall, Veda M. McKown, Margaret Haskins, Avalon and a New York netter, sch. Erickson.

Capt. Wallace Parsons of sch. Ingomar reports that he has not seen a mackerel school this whole spring. He reports that he spoke Capt. James Ellis of sch. Nellie Dixon and the latter reported seeing several schools in the latitude 38.50 in 23 fathoms of water. He had a set, but it was blowing hard and the seine fouled up.

Capt. Frank H. Hall of sch. Ralph L. Hall, reports that he set three times and stopped 40 fish, large and mediums mixed. He also saw several schools.

Thursday it blew heavy from southwest and Friday there was half a gale going from southwest.

Some of the crew of sch. Ralph L. Hall report that they run through a lot of net mackerel, barrel lots, regular net fish, off the capes of Delaware. As near as they could figure the fish were in 40 fathoms east from Cape Heulopen.

May 3.

FISH BROUGHT GOOD PRICES.

Only a Mouthful at Boston This Morning.

Just about a Monday morning mouthful is the amount of fish at T wharf, Boston, this morning. Only 100,000 pounds in the whole, seven trips and the dealers went after them like rescued stray fishermen who had been without food for a week.

They had haddock up to \$3 and \$3.50 and fell over themselves to get large cod at \$4 and market cod at \$3 and \$3.50, while the few hake in sight were quickly swallowed up at from \$2 to \$5.50.

Sch. Robert and Arthur, from off shore, was high with 25,000 pounds, while the market fisherman Belbina P. Domingoes had 22,000 pounds and the Victor and Ethan 21,000 pounds. The Louise C. Cabral has 21,000 pounds. This quartette is in for good checks.

SHELLFISH IN MAINE WATERS.

Massachusetts Claims to be Used in Replanting Flats.

The propagation of shellfish in Maine waters is to receive much attention from the department of sea and shore fisheries this season, according to Commissioner James Donohue of Rockland. The legislature has appropriated \$3000 for replanting barren flats.

While it is not improbable that some portion of the appropriation may be applied to experimenting with quahaugs and oysters, the bulk of it will be devoted to the rejuvenation of barren clam flats.

The replanting of the flats will furnish a busy summer's work for the commission's launch, Sea Gull, which has been replaced for the general work of the department by a large power boat bought at the close of last season.

The white shelled Massachusetts clam will be used for seed, experience having shown that it has a market value three times in excess of the clam dug from the average Maine flat.

The cultivation of a mature clam from the seed occupies a period of about three years. Commissioner Donohue will begin inspecting the territory within a few weeks. He will then arrange for the stock and the planting.

Having an important bearing on this project will be the national conference of fish commissioners, which is to be held in New York, May 5, and which will be attended by Maine's commissioner.

Commissioner Donohue is getting at the root of the short lobster evil by asking the summer hotel men to join in an agreement to refrain from using undersized shellfish this season. Violators of the agreement will be treated with very scant courtesy.

May 3.

Digby, N. S., Fishing Notes.

Sch. Quickstep landed 50,000 pounds of fresh fish at Yarmouth, N. S., a few days ago.

Sch. Effie M. Morrissey was reported at Southwest Harbor, Me., a few days ago with 90,000 pounds of fresh fish.

Sch. W. Parnell O'Hara has sailed for the Magdalen Islands for a cargo of salt herring.

Sch. Fred and Norman, Capt. Boardman Cheney, arrived at Digby Tuesday and is at Syda & Cousins' wharf loading dry fish for Vinal Haven, Me., shipped by some of the local wholesale fish firms.

Dominion Ice Report.

As telegraphed Friday by the superintendent of the signal service, Quebec, to the Halifax board of trade: Cheticamp—Large strip ice five miles off.

Cape St. Lawrence—Light open ice everywhere, moving east.

St. Paul's Island—Light close packed inshore distant, moving south.

Cape North—Light open ice, stationary.

Mulgrave—Very little ice in strait.

Low Point—Heavy open ice distant, north.

All other points—No ice.

Has Good Trip of Halibut.

The only fishing arrival in port this morning is sch. Paragon, Capt. William F., from off Cape Anquilla, N. F., with a fine fare, 38,000 pounds of halibut and 1000 pounds of salt cod.

Capt. Hermon has made another of his quick trips, for he has been only three weeks gone this time and is keeping up a gait which means a big stock at the end of the year.

Capt. Hermon reports seeing no vessels and found no ice on the fishing ground but met some ice 35 miles off Scatteri, on the passage home.

Schooner Lost Her Anchor.

The fishing schooner Margie Turner, which arrived at Portland from Friendship, reports that while shooting by Goddard's ice wharf at Harpswell on Thursday her anchor caught in a splice at the wharf and was broken off close to the stock. The schooner was supplied with a new anchor on arrival at Portland. As if this was not trouble enough for the wharf, the schooner Angle B. Watson drove into it, taking away one side of the pier and half a dozen spiles.

New Fishing Schooner.

Sch. Hawanee, Capt. Cook, finished fitting out at La Have, N. S., Thursday and is ready for the fishing grounds. The Hawanee is a new vessel just launched from the yard of Messrs. Smith & Rhuland of La Have. She is a splendid craft with everything on the latest design, and is a credit to her expert builders. Some claim the Hawanee to be the best of the Nova Scotia fleet.

Bait.

Plenty of herring bait at Monomoy. One hundred barrels of herring were caught at Upper Prospect, N. S., Thursday. There is plenty of bait at Prospect.

The traps at Provincetown took from seven to 30 barrels each of herring today. Some sand eels are also being taken. Seven vessels there today with bait.

Broke Steering Gear.

Sch. Diana, Capt. James McLean, one of the southern seining fleet, broke her steering gear during the recent bad weather, and put into Lewes, Delaware breakwater. A new gear was shipped to her from here.

Halibut Sale.

The fare of sch. Margaret sold to the New England Fish Company and that of sch. Paragon to the American Halibut Company, each at 6 1-2 cents per pound for white and 4 1-2 cents per pound for gray.

Stocked \$1336.

Sch. William H. Rider, Capt. Nils Larsen, stocked \$1336 as the result of her recent Georges headline trip.

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Today's Receipts.

Sch. Paragon, Gulf of St. Lawrence, 38,000 lbs. halibut, 1000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Ethel B. Penney, returned.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Oregon, flitted halibuting.

Sch. Jennie B. Hodgdon, flitted halibuting.

Sch. Atalanta, halibuting.

Sch. Senator, halibuting.

Sch. Thomas E. Gorton, salt and fresh shuck trip.

Sch. Elva L. Spurling, haddocking.

Sch. Massasoit, netting.

Sch. Pontiac, south seining.

Sch. Mary E. Sinnett, haddocking.

Sch. Ida M. Silva, haddocking.

Sch. Emily Sears, haddocking.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50 per cwt. medium do., \$3; snapper do., \$1.75.

Bank halibut, 6 1-2 cts. per lb. for white and 4 1-2 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Large "halibut" cod, salt, \$3 per cwt.; medium do., \$2.50; snapper do., \$1.50.

Large "Drift" Georges cod, salt, \$3.12 1-2 per cwt.; medium do., \$2.75; snapper do., \$1.75.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$1.65 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.40; Eastern cod, large, \$1.55; medium do., \$1.30; cusk, large, \$1.10 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 60c; hake, 60c.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$2.75 per cwt., medium \$2.50, snappers \$1.50.

Salt cod, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers \$1.

Round pollock, 50c per cwt.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Ella G. King of this port, one of the Georges headline fleet, is at Portland this morning with 5000 pounds of halibut and some salt cod.

Sch. Agnes and Claudia were at Canso, N. S., Friday.

Sch. Dictator was at Port Mulgrave, N. S., on Friday, bound to the Magdalens for bait.

Sch. Gladys and Sabra, which sailed for Rips fishing a few days ago, came back yesterday for a booby hatch.

The flitted halibuters Oregon and Jennie B. Hodgdon, which were held up by the bad weather of last week, will sail on their long trips today.

Sch. Ella M. Doughty was at Liverpool, N. S., on Thursday and cleared.

Sch. Parthia was at Shelburne, N. S., Thursday and cleared.

Sch. Pontiac, Capt. Enos Nickerson, got under way yesterday and sailed south seining.

Schs. Centennial and Walter M. Young were at Halifax, N. S., recently bound for the Magdalen Islands, for salt herring cargoes.

Sch. Triton of Boothbay was at Halifax recently for shelter.

Sch. Gladiator will now fit for seining under command of Capt. Christopher Carrigan.

Sch. Senator Gardner sailed from Canso, N. F., on Friday.

Harbor Notes.

Steamer Alicia completed the discharge of her cargo of salt Saturday and sailed Sunday for Philadelphia to load coal for a Gulf of Mexico port.

Sch. Mary E. Hart will have a new foremast stepped at Burnham's shears today, and will sail again Wednesday for the southern seining grounds.

Sch. Margie Smith is on the Rocky railways.

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GRAMPUS NETTED MACK-

EREL.

Shows Fish are in the
Water but Will Not Come
to the Surface.
Number Taken Indicates
That Fish are Well to
the Southward.

Boston Arrivals.
Sch. Louise C. Cabral, 10,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Ignatius Enos, 2500 cod.
Sch. Robert and Arthur, 14,000 haddock, 11,000 cod.
Sch. Valentinn, 3500 haddock, 1000 cod, 500 cusk.
Sch. Victor and Ethan, 15,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Gov. Cleaves, 1000 haddock, 300 cod.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 20,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Haddock, \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$4; market cod, \$3 to \$3.50; hake \$3 to \$5.50.

Portland Arrivals.

The following vessels were at Portland Friday with fares of fresh fish:
Sch. Mineola, 10,000 pounds.
Sch. Katie L. Palmer, 6000 pounds.
Sch. Fanny Hayden, 6000 pounds.
Sch. Bernie and Bessie, 4000 pounds.
Sch. M. A. Downes.
Sloop William Morse, 4000 pounds.
Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan.
Sch. Lochinvar, 1200 pounds.
Sloop Gladys, 3000 pounds.

Addition to Portland Fleet.

The latest addition to the Portland fishing fleet, sch. Topsail Girl, is expected to arrive in that harbor next Wednesday and it is expected that she will receive a warm greeting from the other craft in the harbor. She will be one of the prettiest members of the fleet and is fitted up in first class condition. The quarters for the men are modern in every respect and a number of improvements have been made in the arrangements. It has been decided by the owners not to commission her until later in the season when she will be placed in condition for sword-fishing. She is equipped with a 25 horse-power gasoline engine and is so constructed that she will be able to stand considerable buffeting without giving an evidence of it. Capt. Doggett, who has had command of the sch. Bernie and Bessie for many years has been appointed skipper.

The steamer Robert and Edwin finished repairs at the marine railway at Portland Saturday and brought over from the Cape, the fishing gear formerly used on the steamer Elthier being transferred to her.

Landed Fish at Yarmouth, N. S.

Sch. Kernwood landed 6000 pounds of halibut and 8000 pounds of fresh fish at Yarmouth, N. S., Thursday. Sch. James R. Clark landed 4500 pounds of halibut and sch. Viola, 3500 pounds of halibut, all of which was shipped to Boston.

May 4.

COAST MACKEREL THE BEST.

But Proper Care is Necessary in Curing the Fish.

New York Fishing Gazette says:
"There are no better mackerel caught in the world than off the coast of Massachusetts, Maine, on Georges and in the Bay of Fundy. The great fault, however, is that they are not always well cured, though the American fishermen certainly knows now.

"The past few years the fish have been taken in seines in large lots; and the time was when better care meant more money. But since the dealers have been buying them out of pickle before being inspected, and paying the same price for poorly-cured fish, that they do for well-cured, taken in small lots, the fishermen who used to bring in well-cured fish, soaked out in two or three waters, and rimmed before salting on board of the vessels, have abandoned that method, as it requires longer time and more work.

"The mackerel now are all salted plain, run through one water, and are dark in color and dirty looking. The dealers who buy the fish rim them ashore; and after they are salted the cuts made by the rimmer never close up. In fat mackerel the oil runs from the cuts, making the fish have a yellow, rusty look. A barrel of mackerel, properly soaked in two or three waters, rimmed when fresh, is worth a third more to the consumer in looks and quality. The salt hardens the fish, and at the same time hardens the cuts and retains the fat of the mackerel."

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Caught the Times Mackerel.

Even if they are in hard luck, the seiners out south are bound to have their little joke. The Times has sent a bundle of papers daily to Fortress Monroe, Va., to William Baulch, the fish shipper there, who distributes them to the vessels when they come in there for harbor or to land fish. Thus the boys are enabled to have all the news from home.

When sch. Electric Flash put in there with the first mackerel catch of the season, the Times, in reporting it, headed the article with the familiar "cut" of a mackerel. The next batch of vessels in there for harbor received their papers as usual, among them the one telling of Capt. Bissert's catch.

On board one vessel, after the paper was read by every man on board, was thrown overboard after the craft had been outside a few days. It so happened that the next night, the skipper of some craft in the vicinity saw the flash of a school and set for it. He didn't stop any of the fish, but he did catch that copy of the Times, and as it came into the boat on the twine the part of it with the cut of the mackerel was face up. One wag among the crew grabbed it and looked at it a moment, then seeing what it was, waved it aloft shouting, "well, boys, we are not 'skunked,' we got one mackerel, anyway."

The story of the joke has reached Fulton Market, and now the fish men there are trying to find out who threw the paper overboard and caught it.

May 4.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND SITUATION.

Why a Special Election Has Been Ordered at the Present Time.

A Daily Times representative has been frequently asked why it is necessary for Newfoundland to have an election at this time to choose parliamentary representatives after having held a general election late last fall. To make it clear to the Times readers, it would be well to briefly sum up the situation which confronts the inhabitants of that ancient colony. At the present time it is as follows:

The legislature of Newfoundland consists of two branches similar to that of Massachusetts, the lower elected by the people and upper appointed. Sir Robert Bond for several years has been premier, with a large majority in the legislature. At the election last fall, Mr. Bond had as a competitor Sir Edward Morris, leader of the opposition, and who also had a large following. The returns of that election showed both those leaders elected, together with 17 members each. Here was a situation that probably never confronted Newfoundland before. When the legislature convened each side stood loyal to its leader, so that a government could not be organized. Sir Robert Bond, the wily politician that he is, was not long in sizing up the conditions, and so resigned the premiership in order that Sir Edward Morris might assume the duties of that important office. But so long as Sir Robert's followers stuck to him no organization could be effected and a speaker could not be chosen, so that official business could not be transacted.

After a recess for some weeks to give the members an opportunity to look the matter squarely in the face, they met but with no better result. It was then incumbent upon Sir William McGregor, the governor, to order a new election, which takes place next Saturday. It is now predicted that Sir Robert Bond will have many converts and will be elected with a substantial majority and a like claim is made by Sir Edward Morris' followers. However, the situation is a most peculiar one and great interest is not only manifested in Newfoundland but in Canada as well and even in certain sections of New England.

May 4.

NO WEIRS FOR SEARSPORT.

It is reported from Searsport, Me., that there will be no fish weirs built on Sear island this coming season, the first time for 87 years that this island has been without a weir for the taking of salmon and other fish. Evidently the weirs in the past few years have not been very successful in catching the famed Penobscot river fish.

The fish commission sch. Grampus has had a try for mackerel, with her nets out south, and although there were no mackerel schooling in the vicinity where the try was made, yet she made a good haul, and proved conclusively that the fish are there, but apparently not disposed to show on the surface.

Capt. Jerry E. Cook, the mackerel expert on board the Grampus, wired A. L. Millett, local agent of the Bureau of Fisheries, last night, from Lewes, Delaware breakwater, regarding the catch and position of the craft.

Capt. Cook says that the Grampus put out 10 nets Sunday, 55 miles south southeast of Cape Henlopen and took 173 large mackerel. There were seven mackerel seiners in sight at the time, but no mackerel were seen schooling.

The report of Capt. Cook is an interesting and important one, for it shows that although no mackerel are schooling, yet some are coming along from the southward, and from the spot where the catch was made, it would seem that the fish, or some of them, at any rate, are still well to the southward for this time of the year. The spot indicated is pretty well off shore, which also confirms the belief expressed by many of the seining skippers that what fish have come along, have been well off shore, and bears out Capt. Farmer's report of schools seen and set many miles outside of the general course of the fish coming from the southward.

Old netting skippers here say that the catch of the Grampus, 173 fish in only 10 nets, is big fishing at this time of the year, and indicates that there is a good body of fish coming along below the surface, and also say that it indicates good prospects for the mackerel netting fleet. That the Grampus was able to set her nets on Sunday shows that the bad weather of last week must have changed for the better and that the boats had a chance to set their nets and try for fish.

First Mackerel Taken Off Manchester.

One mackerel was taken in a floating trap, up off Manchester, last Thursday, which is about the earliest on record for the first fish in this vicinity. It is reported that 14 mackerel were taken in the same trap Saturday.

One was caught Sunday in a trap at Beverly.

A mackerel taken in one of the Cape Cod traps, was received at Boston yesterday.

Capt. Charles A. Dyer of Portland, writing to the New York Gazette, says: "In my opinion mackerel will strike the Massachusetts and Maine coasts, and later Georges, and then there will be a large catch. They are so far off shore and south this year that their course in coming north will bring them over Georges and Brown's Bank into the Bay of Fundy and along the Maine and Massachusetts coasts, and there will not be as many caught on the New Jersey and Rhode Island coasts as will be taken later."

Set Nets in Rough Water.

A letter from Capt. Frank Nolan of the mackerel netting sch. Actor, which landed the first trip at New York yesterday, states that it was very rough when he set his nets Friday night. Capt. Nolan did not put out all his nets, and it was so rough when the crew came back from setting that two of the dories stove their bottoms out coming alongside. They had quite a job hauling the nets with three dories. There were seven netters in company with the Actor, but it was so rough that none of them set. Sch. Julietta, which sailed south netting yesterday, carried out two dories to the Actor to take the place of the broken ones.

The fresh mackerel landed at New York yesterday by sch. Actor sold at 65 cents each.